



Maine Arts Commission Annual Report

Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



Maine Arts Commission

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Front cover image Speedwell Projects in Portland,
Maine, featuring public art by Charlie Hewitt.
Photograph by David Greenham.
Report written and compiled by Ryan Leighton

A message from the Executive Director

We’ve been through a lot in the last four years or so. We’re still sorting out the impacts of Covid, our divisive society, inflation, climate changes, and many other challenges that have seemed to dominate the 2020s so far. Are we hopeful? Charlie Hewett’s now well-known sculpture is found in many prominent places around Maine. There are pins and bumper stickers found throughout the state. Even Governor Mills used the colorful Hopeful sign as the anchor for her second inaugural speech. So yes, I think despite it all, we’re as hopeful as we can be.

As you review this annual report, we hope you will be more hopeful, too. The basics of our new strategic plan are most certainly hopeful. We believe that MAC can provide more service, help make connections, work to encourage a larger pot of funding for the arts in Maine and facilitate conversation in preparation for the arts to thrive in our state in the future. We’re still digging into the timeline and workplan, but we see a future filled with hope.

Our work ensuring that art is a part of the daily life of many Mainers is augmented by our several exhibit programs, arts education

efforts, special initiatives, and our grant making.

MAC’s artist fellowship program continues to recognize a few of the many shining lights in Maine, and at every turn we are working to remind Mainers that our arts and culture is central to the success of our state.

But there’s another aspect of being hopeful that’s important to recognize. We’re hopeful that artists and arts organizations are recognizing that we all have a critical role to play in using our work to address our most pressing challenges. The arts can help us celebrate each other rather than squabble over our differences. The arts can remind us that we cherish our communities, our landscapes, and our planet. The arts provide a necessary avenue and outlet that drives innovation and creative problem solving. More and more we’re recognizing that the arts are a necessary catalyst to unifying us to recognize and celebrate our common good. Hope is at the center of our creativity, and that’s the best reason why the arts make us all hopeful!

- David Greenham



Overview of Strategic Plan

The process of developing our Strategic Plan began in 2021 and was waylaid a couple of times by Covid and personnel changes.

The process included a series of one-hour long community discussions and involved both the governing Commission and staff at every step. We conducted interviews with over 200 individuals in 11 communities throughout the state and engaged in additional conversations with many others.

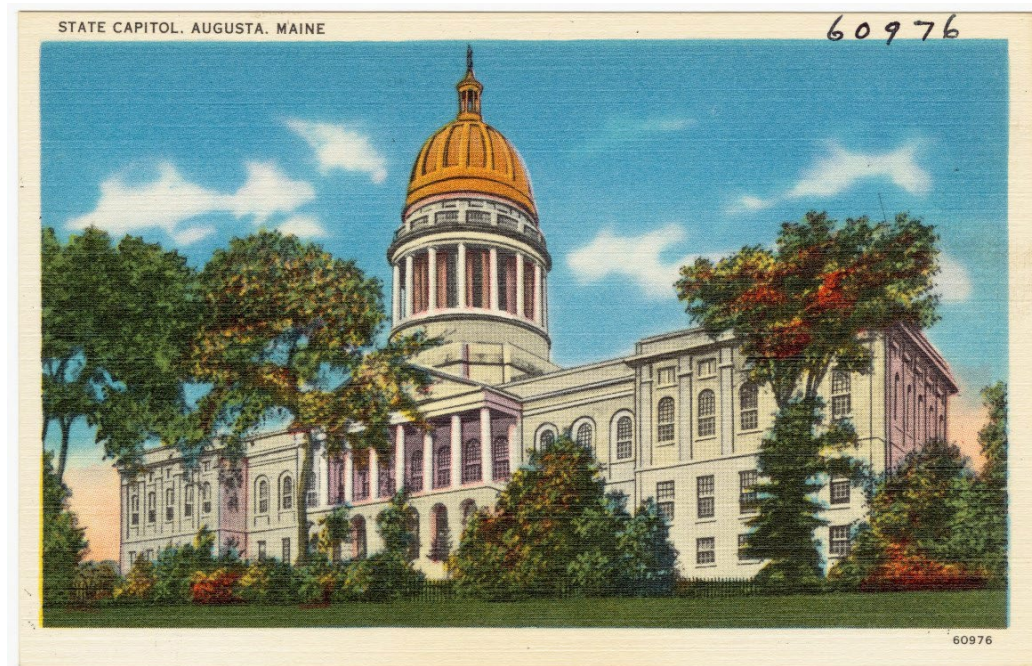
We documented and analyzed the notes and transcripts from these conversations to identify recurring issues and common themes. Simultaneously, our staff and consultant compared our findings with those of other states, allowing us to identify shared themes and learn from existing approaches.

The plan includes four focus areas: Service, Connecting, Funding, and Advancing. The staff is working to finalize a work plan and timeline of addressing these themes. We’ll treat the strategic plan as a living and breathing document which will guide our focus for the coming years.

2022/2027
**STRATEGIC
PLAN**

MISSION: The Maine Arts Commission fosters and encourages public interest and participation in the cultural heritage and artistic expression of our state. We fulfill our mission through partnerships and collaborations, outreach and advocacy, initiatives, information sharing and grants for organizations, individual artists, and communities throughout Maine.

Art in the Capitol



Maine's artistic and cultural heritage is a treasure worth celebrating and promoting. The Art in the Capitol program stands as a testament to the state's commitment to supporting its vibrant artistic community.

The Art In The Capitol program not only showcases established artists but also provides emerging talents with an opportunity to shine. By offering a public venue for their work, it serves as a platform for artists to share their stories, traditions, and experiences, thereby creating cultural exchange and cultivating a deeper appreciation for the arts.

The program's primary objective is to expand the audience for Maine artists and those working on Maine-based themes. By featuring artwork throughout the Capitol Complex, this initiative ensures that the artistic creations reach a wide range of viewers, fostering a deeper appreciation for the arts.

This year's exhibitions explored indigenous art from the Passamaquoddy lineage, presented an intriguing photo collection of Maine meeting halls, recounted stories of living and creating art from two distinct worlds, and celebrated failure-free abstract paintings from individuals living with memory loss.

One of the program's core strengths lies in its accessibility. All Art In The Capitol exhibits are free and open to the public, providing an inclusive opportunity for both residents and visitors to engage with Maine's artistic offerings. The exhibitions are available for viewing during State House business hours, offering a self-guided exploration that allows visitors to appreciate the artwork at their own pace.

The Art in the Capitol program is a celebration of Maine's artistic spirit and a testament to the profound impact that the arts have on our lives.



The 2022-2023 Art In The Capitol Exhibitions featured a diverse array of local artists. Upper-right: *The Protector And Guides*, oil on canvas, by Passamaquoddy artist Norma Randi Smith. *Somerset Grange no 18*, *Patrons of Husbandry, Norridgewock, Maine*, photograph by Michelle Hauser, included in the *Meeting Hall Maine Exhibition*. *Chiribiquete 1*, acrylic on canvas by Jorge Peña. *Opening Minds Through Art Exhibition* featuring paintings by people living with memory loss.





Maine Artist Fellowships

The Artist Fellowships offered by the Maine Arts Commission recognize artistic excellence, and provide artists with the resources they need to further their creative journeys. By offering financial support, the program removes barriers that often hinder artistic growth, allowing artists to dedicate more time and energy to their craft.

This year, six fellows were chosen from across various disciplines, including visual arts, performing arts, literary arts, media arts, and fine craft. They are: Bobbi Tardif, Belvedere Craft Fellow; Erica Moody, Fine Craft Fellow; Cole Caswell, Visual Arts Fellow; Brittany Parker, Performing Arts Fellow; Asha Tamirisa, Media Arts Fellow; and Jeri Theriault, Literary Arts Fellow.

“I have been pursuing a Maine Arts Fellowship since becoming an artist and settling in the state – it’s been a huge goal - and to be chosen for this year’s fellowship leaves me speechless and so excited to continue making,” said Cole Caswell, the Visual Arts Fellow. “The fellowship has inspired me to chase loose ends and questions, while adding energy to my studio practice.”

Maine Artist Fellows are cultural ambassadors, capturing the essence of the state through their creations and reflecting its diverse heritage and unique sense of place. Investing in Maine’s artists reinforces the notion that art is not merely a form of entertainment but a powerful vehicle for dialogue, social change, and personal transformation. Let us celebrate the fellows, and ensure that Maine remains a thriving hub of artistic excellence for generations to come. Individual Fellow profiles are included on the following pages: 12, 16, 18, 22, 26, 30.

Fellowship Snapshots



SOUR SOLVENTS

Before moving to Maine in 2019, Asha Tamirisa worked in academia experimenting with sound, video, film, and researching media histories. Her 2020 installation *Sour Solvents* responds to the notion that there are multiplicities that exist within, beyond, and despite the histories and realities that we know. This piece does so, using sugar materially and metaphorically to engage the layers of pasts that are absorbed into our present.

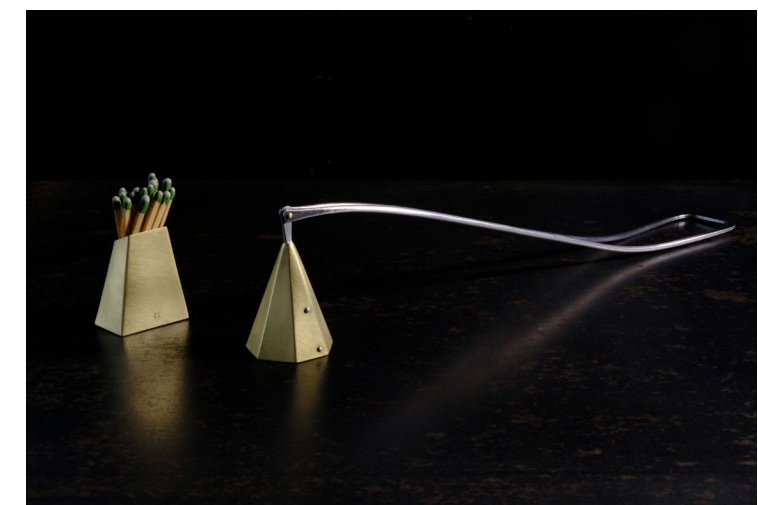
SNUFFER

Erica Moody sculpts unique serving wares using traditional metals as well as minimal design and fabrication learned from collaborations over the last 30 years with artists, architects, and designers. Using refined and organic techniques in her craftsmanship, areas of texture emerge and become a nuanced detail that documents the process while conveying the intimate sense of time, ritual, existence and connection of the maker, user, and object.



RISE: A PHOTOGRAPHIC INVESTIGATION

Cole Caswell is an artist from Peaks Island, Maine. His latest work *Rise* is a photographic investigation of the coastal landscape that will be lost to sea level rise. The use of the wet-plate collodion process allows Cole to hand make each of his images while on location. The resulting glass-plate negatives are an accumulation of what it is like to be in a place – a tribute to a landscape that will be consumed by water and the rising ocean.



Veterans' Art Exhibition Celebration



Above: Retired U.S. Navy Veteran Jeffrey Plucker stands with his acrylic painting *Curtis Cove* displayed in the corridors of the Burton M. Cross Building. Above-right, *I Run With a Woman*, airbrush acrylic on synthetic paper by U.S. Navy Veteran Valerie Lovelace. Right, the new Maine Honorable Service plaque now hanging in the Hall of Flags in the Maine State House.



On November 1, 2022 the Hall of Flags in the Maine State House came alive with art, appreciation, and camaraderie at the Maine Veterans' Art Exhibition Celebration. The event was a heartfelt tribute to our Veteran artists and an opportunity for all to come together in honor of their service. The commemoration featured speeches from leaders in the arts and veterans' services, the unveiling of the State of Maine Honorable Service plaque, and the presentation of custom-made Quilts of Valor to each participating veteran artist. The Maine Arts Commission partnered with the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services, The Peace Gallery, and Quilts of Valor to host the ceremony and reception.

Veteran artist Valerie Lovelace said she was thrilled to receive a stunning quilt adorned with paw-print fabric, specifically chosen because of her submission titled *I Run with a Woman*. "The fabric, the quilt itself, and the collaborative efforts of the Maine Arts Commission and the Veteran's Administration in supporting the arts within our community have filled me with immense gratitude," she said. "Through my artwork, I have delved into the depths of my soul, discovering new facets of myself along the way."



Above: Veteran artists honored at the Maine Veterans' Art Exhibition Celebration. U.S. Army Veteran Cassie Sano receives her quilt, made by Quilts of Valor.

Following the ceremony, attendees were invited to take a walking tour through the exhibits at the Burton M. Cross Building and the Maine Arts Commission. On display were a total of thirty-six art pieces that showcased a wide range of emotions and themes. For these artists, creating the art served as a source of inspiration, and provided them with a means to express complex and challenging emotions. Their art told stories of grief, beauty, trauma, and peace, and offered viewers a glimpse into their personal experiences. Through this experience, we paid tribute to their sacrifices, acknowledged their unique stories, and expressed our deep appreciation for their contributions to both the arts and our nation.



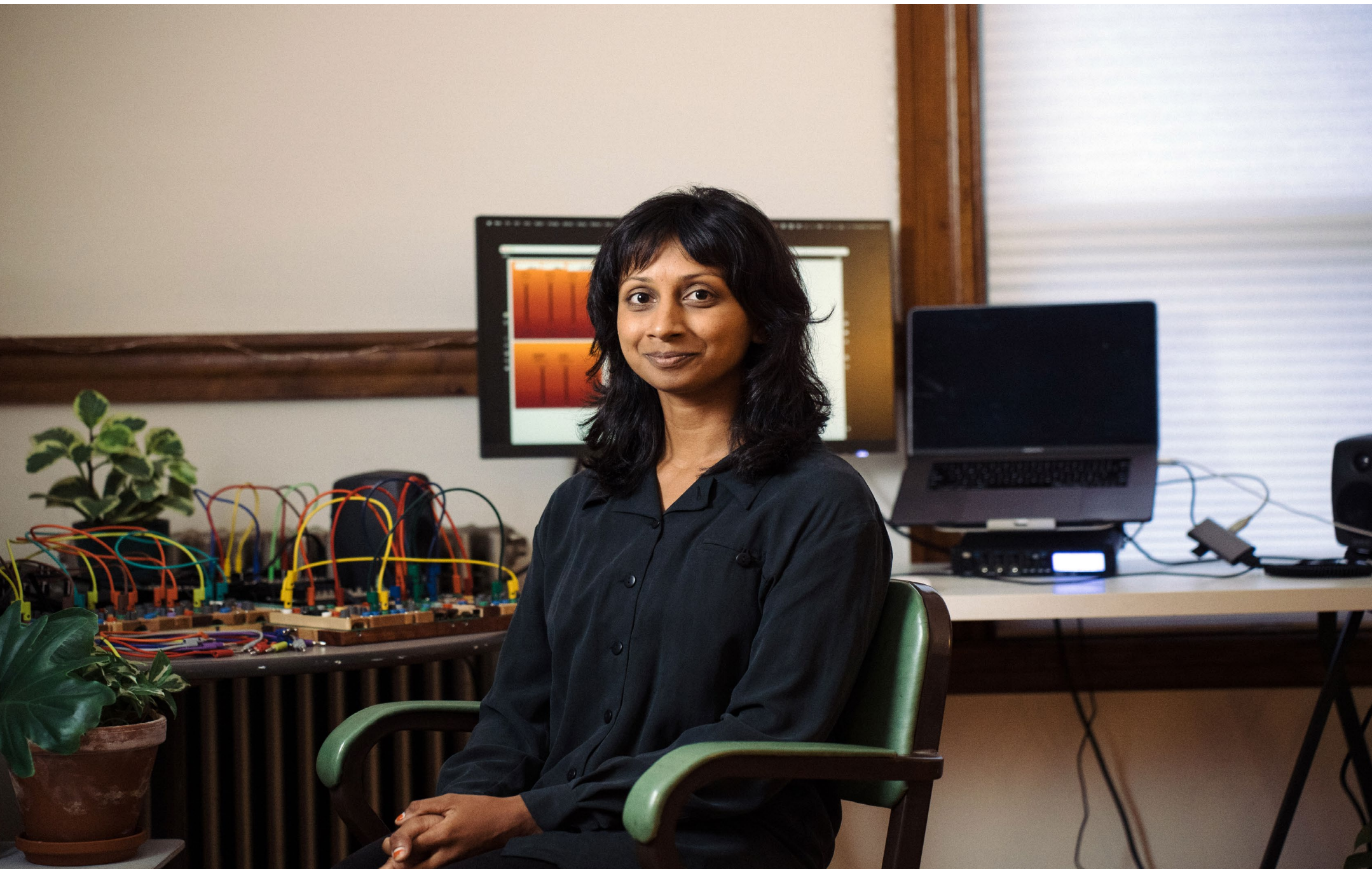
2023 Media Fellowship

Asha Tamirisa Sound and Video Artist

Artist Website: ashatamirisa.net

Opposite page clockwise: Asha performs *Piece for Fog Space*, an intimate, site-specific performance in which sound vibrates mirrors and reflects the image of the site, subtly shifting its image. Right, and below, *Temporal Currents II: Experimental Sound and Film*. Asha's performance using the interior of the Waterworks Museum was used to project various films on loop, accompanied by multichannel sound.

Photos by Peter Gumaskas and Tim Bugbee



Asha Tamirisa of Portland, works with sound, video, film, and researches media histories. Along with many colleagues, Asha co-founded *OPENSIGNAL*, a collective of artists concerned with the state of gender and race in electronic music and art practice. Asha moved to Maine in 2019 and has presented a site-specific video installation for Space Gallery's 2020 "*ReSite*" exhibition, a sound installation in Congress Square Park in 2021, a sound installation for Make Music Portland in 2022, and an artist Residency at Hewnoaks Artist Colony in 2022.

She now works with the organization *TECHNE*. Asha has taught sound and media art at Brown University, the Rhode Island School of Design, Girls Rock! Rhode Island, and Street Level Youth Media in Chicago. Asha holds a Ph.D. in Computer Music and Multimedia and an M.A. in Modern Culture and Media from Brown University and is currently an Assistant Professor at Bates College. Asha has

performed at venues such as the ICA Boston and Bitforms Gallery (NYC), has given talks at institutions such as the University of Michigan, Mount Holyoke College, and Oberlin College, and has held residencies at The Media Archeology Lab (Boulder, CO), Perte de Signal (Montreal, CA) and I-Park Foundation (East Haddam, CT). Asha's work has been mentioned in the Oxford Handbook of New Audiovisual Aesthetics and the 5th Edition of *Electronic and Experimental Music: Technology, Music, and Culture*.

Asha used her Maine Artist Fellowship Award to build her sound and video/film studio in Maine and released a full-length experimental music album, which collaborated with Maine-based visual artists and audio engineers.





Background image: **Beneath the Forest, Beneath the Sea** by Pamela Moulton, 2022, a project commissioned by TEMPOart for installation in Portland's Payson Park. Photo by Bonnie Durham. Top left: Portland artist Ebenezer Akakpo incorporated his native Ghanaian Adinkra symbols in his design of **Hope & Friendship**, a powder-coated steel cut design on the 519 Congress St. bus shelter outside Mechanics' Hall. Photo by Dinah Minot. Middle image: a mural by Jared "The Color Wizard" Goulette, painted with the help of inmates on the walls of Maine State Prison in Warren. Bottom: Judy Taylor gives an artist talk in front of the Water Street mural in downtown Ellsworth, where the city commissioned its first outdoor public art in collaboration with community members.

A Year In Public Art

Under the scorching midday sun, the bus shelter on Deering Avenue, near the University of Southern Maine campus, was illuminated. Adorned with a vibrant, semi-translucent polyester film that adjusted its brightness with the sunlight, the shelter attracted a gathering. Cultural leaders, public officials, community stakeholders, and the press had all come together to celebrate the fusion of public art and mass transit.

Dinah Minot, the director of Creative Portland, emphasized the role of public art in stimulating community dialogue. Portland's commitment to public art had sparked a surge of creativity that now surged through the city's streets and was spreading across Maine. The Bus Shelter Initiative, supported by an Our Town Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and various sponsors, served as the primary catalyst for this movement.

The Ghost Gear creative bus shelter, situated at 251 Deering Avenue in Portland's Oakdale neighborhood, was the brainchild of Carter Shappy, a graduate from the Maine College of Art and Design and the creative force behind Studio Shappy. Shappy, an accomplished visual artist, printmaker, designer, illustrator, and art technician, had spent over a decade documenting ghost gear- a term used in the fishing industry to describe discarded, lost, or abandoned ropes, nets, cords, and lines that litter the ocean as flotsam.

Currently, Portland boasts nine creative bus shelters, with more on the way. However, remarkable art projects are not confined to Portland alone. Jared Goulette, known as "The Color Wizard," a professional muralist, received a Maine Arts Commission grant in 2021 to transform ordinary utility boxes into custom hand-painted artworks. Through his skilled use of shadowing and highlighting effects, Goulette breathed life into his art, making water droplets and frogs seemingly leap off the surface. His latest venture involved an expansive mural measuring 18' x 77', created with the assistance of inmates from the Maine State Prison in Warren. The mural depicts a sprawling monochromatic mountain landscape, while in the corner, the words "Stay Positive" served as a poignant message.

In Rockport, Jay Sawyer unveiled a recently installed sculpture called "Salute to El Faro," paying a solemn tribute to the 33 crew members lost at sea when the SS El Faro sank during Hurricane Joaquin on October 1, 2015. Among the crew were five graduates from the Maine Maritime Academy, four of whom were residents of Maine and two from Rockland.

Further up the coast, in Ellsworth, one could witness the creation of a mural thanks to the advocacy and fundraising efforts of Cara Romano and The Heart of Ellsworth. Maine has many such gems throughout the State. Explore!

2023 Belvedere Fellowship

Bobbi Tardif

Ceramic Artist



Bobbi Tardif, of Perry, has always had a deep connection to the physicality of land and the important role of family. In November of 2020, Bobbi and her family moved back to her hometown of Perry in Washington County. One of her fondest childhood memories is playing in the spring-fed stream behind her house. That is where she discovered glacial clay. She dug up the clay with her hands, formed it, molded it, squished it between her fingers, and became completely fascinated. It was the bond between material, manipulation, and self that led Bobbi to pursue being an artist. Bobbi is an arts educator devoted to growing visual arts programming in public education within her community. Her positive outlook, spirited energy, and genuine care for others provides her students and community with opportunities to explore art in a variety of ways, helping them see the artist within. "Continuous learning allows me to analyze and think about my artwork in new ways, but teaching allows me to share what I have learned and who I am as an artist with others," Bobbi said. Knowing firsthand what strong arts programming can have on a rural community and individually, Bobbi began the construction of her studio in 2021. The studio will allow her to pursue her

Left: A ceramic sculpture by arts educator Bobbi Tardif. Below, pine needles woven into a cover for a ceramic bowl. Opposite page, Bobbi wades into the stream behind her house to dig for glacial clay. The Belvedere Handcraft Fellowship is made possible through a partnership between The Maine Arts Commission and the Maine Community Foundation's Belvedere Downeast Handcraft Fund.



own artwork and offer valued art programming including ceramics. Being in Perry and examining the geology of the streams, the ecology of the woods, the oceanography of the water, and forming new discoveries with this place is pure joy, Bobbi said. The Belvedere Fellowship, which is awarded to artists in Hancock and Washington Counties, will bring Bobbi one step closer to making her dream a reality with the purchase of equipment for the studio. She said she is blessed and honored to be chosen for this award.



2023 Performing Arts Fellowship

Brittany Parker Musician, Puppeteer, and Educator

Artist Website: brittanyparker.com

Opposite page: Brittany Parker’s dedication to arts education shines through her role as a puppetry instructor. Brittany is also the founding member of the band Bee Parks and the Hornets. The band’s songs encompass diverse themes such as environmentalism, social justice, equality, self-confidence, and fostering love for one’s community. From theaters to libraries, museums to schools, zoos to parks, the band has graced stages across the East Coast.



Brittany Parker, hailing from Rockport, is a talented theatre and music creator. With a passion for enriching rural communities through art, Brittany is the driving force behind Bee Parks and the Hornets, an indie pop-rock band that captivates audiences of all ages. In addition to her musical pursuits, she serves as the Education Manager at the Strand Theatre in Rockland. Brittany’s artistic vision transcends age boundaries, as she strives to produce performances that resonate with everyone.

Since her relocation to Maine in 2013, Brittany has collaborated on numerous original productions that appeal to intergenerational audiences. These productions, featuring her original music, puppetry, and immersive audience participation, redefine the traditional notion of a show and transport viewers into a realm of storytelling magic. Her creative works often revolve around themes of empathy, equity, environmental awareness, social justice, and individuality, drawing inspiration from the stories, communities, and issues specific to Maine.

“I frequently collaborate with a diverse ensemble of like-minded theatre makers and musicians who share my artistic values,” Brittany shares. The strong spirit of entrepreneurship and the thriving artistic community in Maine have fueled her desire to create her own performances. Each show’s development is intertwined with the remarkable individuals who call this state home— their reactions and active participation have left an indelible mark on Brittany as an artist and performer.

Brittany’s shows have graced the stages of theatres, libraries, parks, and schools, often accompanied by workshops in music, puppetry, and filmmaking. Her talents have even taken her on tours across nine states in the US, as well as Tottori, Japan.

The Maine Artist Fellowship award presents a valuable opportunity for Brittany to further develop her solo performance works, which have experienced setbacks due to the pandemic. She eagerly anticipates sharing the fruits of her labor with the cherished communities in Maine that have played a pivotal role in shaping her as an artist.

POETRY OUT LOUD



As winter just started to inch its way to spring on a Monday in mid-March, a couple hundred friends and family members ventured to the Olin Arts Center at Bates College in Lewiston to hear the last ten state competitors for the annual Maine Poetry Out Loud Finals. The participants, who were the top scorers from two regional state finals emerged from more than 2,400 contestants across the state. Poetry Out Loud (POL) is the National Endowment for the Arts' poetry recitation program for high school students and Maine has been a proud participant since the program was founded in 2005.

The 2023 state finals featured co-hosts Maya Williams, Portland's Poet Laureate; and Allan Monga, Jr., Maine's 2018 POL winner, along with Maine Poet Laureate Julia Bouwsma, MAC's 2020 Performing Arts Fellow Janoah Bailin, and Maine Teacher of the Year Matt Bernstein. And if that wasn't exciting enough, the event was interrupted by a fire alarm. Everyone needed to file out of the building until the fire trucks arrived and we were given the 'all clear' to return to the theater.

The competitors remained unflappable and they each recited their poems with the appropriate skill and clarity. In the end it was Abigail Case of Hermon High School who emerged as the 2023 Maine representative to receive an all-expense paid trip to the POL National Finals in Washington, D.C.

Jaime Bueya-Mbiyavanga of Portland High School came in second and was named runner-up for the Maine finals. In early May, Abigail recited her poems at the national semi-finals; while she was not selected to participate in the finals, she had a wonderful time on the trip with her family, met talented students from across the country, and she is excited to participate again next year.

Whether you're a finalist or not, the experience of participating in Poetry Out Loud is enriching. Each student must select three poems from an extensive list of classic and contemporary poetry provided by the POL national program, created in partnership with the Poetry Foundation. Participating students then learn to recite the poems – which are scored by judges on physical presence, voice and articulation, dramatic appropriateness, evidence of understanding, overall performance, and toughest of all, accuracy. It's a challenging but very rewarding process.

The success of Poetry Out Loud in Maine would not be possible without the unwavering support of numerous individuals and organizations. The participating students, their parents, teachers, mentors, and every person who contributes to the process of reading the many wonderful poems make Poetry Out Loud a reality. Their collective efforts have not only elevated the caliber of this competition but also instill a deep appreciation for poetry among the youth, fostering creativity and self-expression.



Clockwise top: Abigail Case, of Hermon High School was named Maine State Poetry Out Loud Champion. Jaime Bueya-Mbiyavanga of Portland High School was named runner-up. Despite any lingering nerves, the participants found their worries dissipated as the circus arts performer Janoah Bailin took the spotlight. Before the competition, former Poetry Out Loud champion Allan Monga gave the reciters a pep talk.

2023 Visual Arts Fellowship

Cole Caswell

Photographer and Educator

Cole Caswell's home and work are firmly tied to an island off the coast of Maine, a place where the elements shape the landscape with relentless wind, crashing waves, and mystical fog.

Maine's coastline, adorned with marshes, lagoons, and islands has always held a romantic allure and rich history in his heart. Yet, as the planet's climate continues to warm, he says, this enchanting meeting point of sea and land is bound to undergo dramatic transformations. "The predicted rise in sea levels is already making its impact felt, and by the end of the century, the picturesque locations I hold dear will be submerged or unrecognizably altered," Cole said. "They will become reclaimed territories of the ocean."

To capture the essence of these endangered landscapes, Cole employs the wet-plate collodion process, meticulously crafting each image on-site. The resulting glass-plate negatives serve as a testament to what it feels like to be in these places, a tribute to a landscape that could succumb to the rising waters. Cole says he is fascinated by the artifacts and distinctive marks

that emerge within these hand-poured negatives. "They serve as chance-based additions, visually hinting at the fragility of our contemporary world. They may evoke memories, dreams, or fleeting glimpses of what we stand to lose as our climate reshapes the sanctuaries we cherish."

Receiving the Maine Arts Fellowship is an incredibly humbling honor for Cole. He views this award as an opportunity to broaden his audience and explore new artistic avenues. The fellowship has ignited a desire within to pursue untrodden paths, to question, and to infuse his studio practice with renewed energy. Since becoming an artist and making Maine his home, securing a Maine Arts Fellowship has been an ambitious goal, and being selected for this year's fellowship leaves him with a loss for words, but brimming with excitement to continue creating meaningful work.



Artist Website: colecaswell.com

Above: *Further On. Plate 084* and *Spurwink River Looking West. Plate 036*. Cole currently holds adjunct faculty positions at Southern Maine Community College, and Prescott College in Arizona – where he develops and teaches photography courses remotely.

Fiscal Year 2023 Grantees

Artist Project Grant

Titus Abbott	Brunswick	Titus Abbott Collective Recording
Cary Adams	Starks	Soundscapes of Starks, Maine
Amanda Amoroso	Rockport	Studio Access & Growth
Daisy Braun	Peaks Island	Sculptural Plankton Installation at the Wells Reserve Marine Lab
Peter Bruun	Damariscotta	First the Crying (Phase 2)
Cole Caswell	Peaks Island	Rise - Artist Book
Yarleque Chicon	Portland	Maine through my eyes- Maine a través de mis ojos
Larry Clifford	Hampden	Maine BiblioQuilts
Travis Cyr	Caribou	Travis Cyr - Working Artist
Michael Gorman	Palermo	The Ahab Inside Me
Dylan Hausthor	Portland	What The Rain Might Bring
Amanda Huotari	Buckfield	Revelation: The New Beautiful
Breehan James	Gorham	50 day wilderness canoe camping trip
Sara Juli	Falmouth	A Thinking Problem
Joan Lowden	Eastport	Eastport ArtWalk Weekends
Coco McCracken	Portland	Coco McCracken - Untitled Memoir
Madeleine Morlet	Rockport	Take Wing Documentary Project (Working Title)
Aimable Nduwayezu	Portland	Burundian Dance in Portland
Rijah Newell	Sebago	Carnisvale!
Elaine Ng	Hope	Historic Hand-sewing Techniques for Sculpture
Veronica Perez	Westbrook	identity, experience, and existence: braiding circles
Austin Phillips	Portland	Halloween Illusion Show
Lucky Platt	Burnham	Curating the First UPL Children’s Summer Reading Adventure
Becky Jane Rosen	Portland	Is this what we want?
Kate Russell	Sedgwick	Shakes School’s Wooden O Festival
Andrea Sulzer	Woolwich	Andrea Sulzer: Woodblock Prints, 2005 - Present
Sara Trunzo	Unity	Keeping the Light & Live Free or Die: 2 song recording project

Artist Springboard Grant

Sara Armas	Stonington	Supplies to Build a Safe Chemistry Catch and Disposal System
Catherine Bickford	South Portland	Artist in Residence Yarmouth Community Garden
Kerry Constantino	Gorham	Photography Zine Workshop
Rebecca Cote	Biddeford	Williams Court Positive Change Mural
David Dailey	Thomaston	Studio Growth
Jeffrey DeHaven	Kents Hill	Sleeping with the Windows Open
Jerry Edwards	Gouth Portland	Gem City 2 Album
Caitriona Fiero	Biddeford	Establishment of Fiero Woodworking
Hannah Haines	Biddeford	Biddeford Movement Map
Rebecca Hoskins	Newry	Art Market Booth Improvements
Beth Jones	Hallowell	The Sweater and Other Poems
Dale Joyce	Swan’s Island	Color Carbon Transfer/Gum Bichromate Printing Workshop
Valerie Lawson	Robbinston	Writing the Land
Richard Lee	Portland	Scenes From A Burning Garden
Haley Linnet	Old Orchard Beach	Tampon Insertion Life-sized Sculpture
Geoffrey Masland	Yarmouth	Producing a Tract
Sara McDougall	Ellsworth	Shifting Light
Scott McPheeters	Biddeford	Empathetic Resonance - Rehearsal Intensive
Ashley OBrion	Raymond	Glaze Professional Development Courses for Cacophony Series
Kathryn Price	Portland	Unfinished Art Project
Kate Ritz	Vinalhaven	Low wages / No benefits
Ellen Sedgwick	Surry	Woodfiring an Anagama Kiln
Brian Smith	Portland	Tell Me How to Love You
Karin Spitfire	Belfast	The Order of the Universe
Hannah Wasielewski	Portland	Haunts i)
Evelyn Waugh	Portland	Completing First Novel - Roulette
Susan Wefald	Peaks Island	Memoir: Finding Emile
Joyce Weinstein	Westbrook	Aging and Mortality

Organization Operations Grant

317 Main Community Music Center	Yarmouth	Operational Support for 317 Main Community Music Center
Aroostook Arts and Education Center	Presque Isle	Operational Support for Wintergreen Arts Center
ArtVan	Bath	Operational Support for ArtVan’s mobile art therapy
Bangor Symphony Orchestra	Bangor	Operational Support for BSO’s 2022-23 Season
Bay Chamber Concerts Inc.	Rockport	Operational Support for concerts and music school
Belfast Flying School	Belfast	Operational Support for Belfast Flying Shoes
Bethel Area Arts & Music	Bethel	Operational Support to expand arts programming
Bowdoin International Music Festival	Brunswick	Operational Support
Celebration Barn Theater	South Paris	Operational Support for Celebration Barn
Center Theatre Inc.	Dover Foxcroft	Operational Support for ongoing work at the theatre
Children’s Museum & Theatre of Maine	Portland	Support for creation of production materials in Maddy’s Theatre
Creative Norway	Norway	Operational Support for Creative Norway
Denmark Arts Center	Denmark	Operational Support
Halcyon Music	Rockland	Operational Support
Haystack Mountain School of Crafts	Deer Isle	Support for Haystack’s mission of connecting people through craft
Heart of Ellsworth	Ellsworth	Operational Support for Heart of Ellsworth
Hewnoaks Artist Colony	Lovell	Operational Support for Hewnoaks artist residencies
High Peaks Creative Council	Phillips	Operational Support for Project Management
Illustration Institute	Portland	Operational Support
Indigo Arts Alliance	Portland	General Operating Support
Johnson Hall Inc.	Gardiner	Operational Support for Johnson Hall
LA Arts	Auburn	Operational Support for employee and occupancy needs
Mad Horse Theatre Company	South Portland	Commission video previews of upcoming performances
Maine Academy of Modern Music	Portland	General Operational Support
Maine Inside Out	Lewiston	Support for mission to bring theater for social change
Mayo Street Arts	Portland	General Operating Support for Mayo Street Arts
New Surry Repertory Theatre	Blue Hill	Operational Support for 51st season to
Ogunquit Playhouse	Ogunquit	Operational Support
Opera Maine	Portland	Operating Support for Opera Maine
Pierre Monteux Memorial Foundation	Hancock	Operational Support
Portland Media Center	Portland	Operational Support
Portland Museum of Art	Portland	Supporting Art For All at the Portland Museum of Art
Quoddy Tides Foundation	Eastport	Operational Support in Time of Transition and Transformation
Saco River Grange Hall	Bar Mills	Operational Support for Saco River Theatre
TEMPOart	Portland	Operational Support for TEMPOart
The Choral Art Society	Portland	Operational Support for Choral Art
The Peace Gallery	Damariscotta	Enhancing Long-Term Support for The Peace Gallery
The Telling Room	Portland	Operational Support for The Telling Room
Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts	Edgecomb	Operational Support

Organization Project Grant

317 Main Community Music Center	Yarmouth	Access to Free Music Education for K-12 Students
Bangor Symphony Orchestra	Bangor	Firefly and Beethoven’s 9th: Reflections On Joy and Humanity
Creative Portland	Portland	Summer Stage Free Concert Series
Dramatic Repertory Company	Portland	The Death Wings Project
Ikirenga cy’intore	Portland	Tales of Bells and Drums Performance
Indigo Arts Alliance	Portland	2022 Beautiful Blackbird Children’s Book Festival
LA Public Theatre, Inc.	Lewiston	Producing “Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical”
Project Freewill	New Portland	Freewill Songwriting & Poetry Fest
Quoddy Tides Foundation	Eastport	Interdisciplinary Residency: Working the Waters
Salt Bay Chamberfest	Damariscotta	Salt Bay Chamberfest 2022: Illuminations
Side x Side Inc	Portland	Arts Integration: Life Science, Literacy and Arts
The Telling Room	Portland	The Telling Room 2022-23 Anthology Project
Waterville Creates	Waterville	Common Threads: Exhibition in the Paul J. Schupf Art Center

Creative Aging

317 Maine Community Music Center	Yarmouth	Cultural Resources Inc.	Camden
Bangor Region YMCA	Bangor	Four Directions Development Corporation	Orono
Brick Store Museum	Kennebunk	Maine Alliance for Arts Education	Bowdoinham
Center Theatre, Inc.	Dover Foxcroft	Maine Association for Nonprofits	Portland
Friends of Cumston Hall	Monmouth	Nibezun	Passadumkeag
Gorham Arts Alliance	Gorham	Mayo Street Arts	Portland
Liberty Library	Liberty	Wintergreen Arts Center	Presque Isle
Norway Maine Opera House Corp.	Buckfield		
Rangeley Health and Wellness	Rangeley		
Resident Services of America, Inc.	South Portland		

2023 Fine Craft Fellowship

Erica Moody Crafter



Erica Moody, a Fine Craft Fellow hailing from Waldoboro, is a skilled sculptor specializing in creating distinctive serving wares. Her craft has evolved from a desire to fashion tools that foster connection, with a particular focus on the spiritual aspect of sharing food. Erica draws inspiration for her utensil designs from a wide array of antique serving styles and traditional metalworking techniques. Additionally, her collaborations with artists, architects, and designers over the past three decades have imbued her work with elements of minimal design and expert fabrication.

Erica follows a meticulous process in her creative

endeavors, engaging in a dialogue with her chosen materials, primarily brass, copper, and steel. Her aim is to achieve purposeful simplicity while placing a deliberate emphasis on human connection and the tactile experience. Through her careful craftsmanship, she employs refined and organic techniques that give rise to textured areas, serving as nuanced details that document the artistic process. In doing so, Erica's work conveys a profound sense of time, ritual, existence, and the connections forged between the maker, the user, and the object.

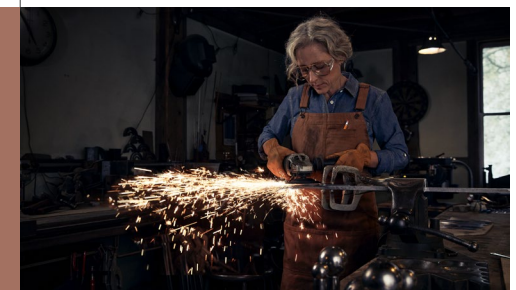
The trajectory of Erica's artistic journey took a significant turn when she relocated to Maine

in 2014, where she discovered ample inspiration and the luxury of time within the expansive natural surroundings. Reflecting on her experience, she shares, "I have been deeply influenced by the intimate relationship that communities foster through the act of sharing food—the cultivation process, the mindful stewardship of the environment, the families involved in its growth, and the way we all embrace it in our culinary endeavors and at our tables. This connection resonates deeply with my own family lineage and evokes memories of their time as farmers and cooks in the rural South, where recipes, seeds, and cookware were lovingly passed down through the generations."

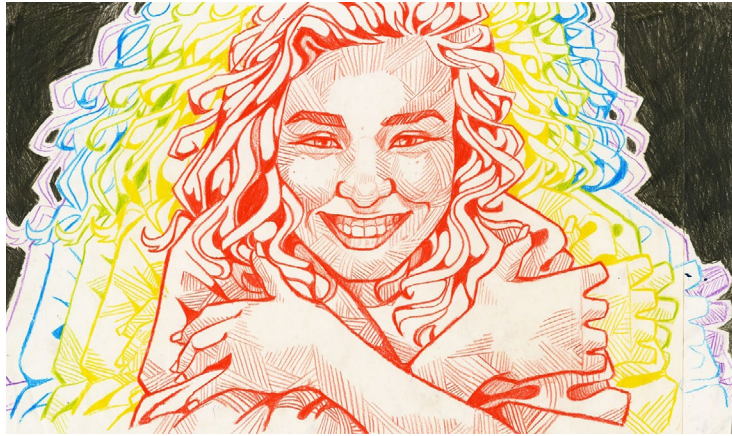
Artist Website: ericamoody.com

Above, clockwise, Pie server, brass pair, and oyster knives. "To see and reach for that handmade object, it awakens a feeling of connectedness and awareness to the being that crafted it and the space & time around you as you use it in what would most likely be an otherwise dull moment slipping by unnoticed and unappreciated." - Erica Moody

Portrait photos by Brian Coppede



Maine Excellence in Arts Education



Celebrating the artistic talents of Maine's youth, the Maine Excellence in Arts Education Exhibition is an annual exhibition at the Maine State Capitol Complex, showcasing the artwork of students from across the state. These young artists have poured their hearts and souls into their creations, and their talent is evident in each brushstroke and design.

One standout piece among the collection is Lillian Runs After's poster titled "Peace Not War." Created during her graphic design class at Oxford Hills Technical School, Lillian's poster, along with the other artworks on display, captivates viewers and sparks conversations.

The selection process for this exhibition was no easy task. A jury reviewed hundreds of submissions



from Maine for the annual Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, a national program that has been recognizing young artists for a century.

The Maine Excellence in Arts Education Exhibition provides an invaluable platform for these young artists to show their work to the public. As we celebrate the 100th year of the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, let us also recognize the young artists who continue to shape and redefine the world through their creativity. MAC will continue to support and champion their artistic endeavors, for they are the future of our cultural landscape.

Above left: "Self Love" by Kayley Feeney of Kents Hill School. "Peace Not War" by Lillian Runs After of Oxford Hills Tech School, along with 34 other student artworks from around the state were on display in the Capitol Complex as part of the Excellence In Arts Education Exhibition.

Congressional Art Competition



In Maine, the artistic talents of our youth shine brightly in the annual Congressional Art Competition. In 2023, the Maine Arts Commission recognized Jillian Wight of Freeport High School and Ella Shilkin of Kents Hill School as the winners of this statewide and national competition.

Ella Shilkin's photographic portrait of a teenage boy standing near a window emerged as the first-place winner in Maine's Second District. A jury member, Gerald Walsh, was struck by the unique quality of light and the advanced composition of the piece, deeming it "powerful." Shilkin's ability to capture a moment and evoke emotions through her photography is a testament to her remarkable talent and creative vision, he said.

Jillian Wight claimed victory in Maine's First District with her drawing titled "Family Room." Juror Anna Dibble commended Wight's work for its perspective, dazzling color choices, and the powerful overall impact. Wight's ability to convey depth, emotion, and storytelling through her artwork is a true testament to her artistic prowess and dedication.

While the winners' artwork will hang the halls of



the U.S. Capitol for one year, it is equally important to acknowledge the immense talent displayed by all participants in the Congressional Art Competition. In addition to Jillian Wight and Ella Shilkin, we recognize other student award recipients, including Sophia Blanco of Winthrop High School, Cosette Spier of Cape Elizabeth High School, and honorable mentions Finnian Furtney, Rihanna Antoine, and Teagan Slone of Freeport High School.

The Congressional Art Competition, which began in 1982, has provided a platform for more than 650,000 high school students across the country to showcase their artistic abilities. It encourages young artists to pursue their passion, refine their skills, and express themselves through their chosen medium. We applaud the U.S. House of Representatives for their continued commitment to fostering artistic excellence and promoting the importance of arts education.

Ella Shilkin's photographic portrait of a teenager standing near a window won first place in Maine's Second District. Jillian Wight's drawing titled "Family Room" won in Maine's First District. The recognized artwork was on display at the Burton Cross Building and the Maine Arts Commission through May 2023. The first place recipients' artwork is displayed at the U.S. Capitol for one year.

2023 Literary Arts Fellowship

Jeri Theriault

Author and Poet

Jeri Theriault was born and raised in Waterville, a mill town perched on the Kennebec, where she attended Sacred Heart School with other descendants of the French-Canadian millworkers who settled in the area. Her father was a barber, her mother a housewife and a bookkeeper.

She studied English and classics at Colby, earned an MA in Instructional Leadership from USM and an MFA from Vermont College. She taught at Deering and South Portland High Schools for twenty years. A 1998-99 Fulbright Teacher Exchange brought her to Gymnasium Arabska in Prague. Then, in 2002 she became Chair of the English Department at The International School of Prague, a position she held for six years.

Jeri’s still writing about those Prague years, but Maine—her childhood and French Catholic heritage—form the most consistent threads in her writing. Her characters, grandmother and mother, girl cousins and aunts, are sometimes augmented by personae like Barbie or Demeter or Coco Chanel.



The Maine Arts Commission Fellowship funded traveling, research and residencies to support her latest project, whose working title is “Cemetery Stories,” inspired by regular walks in Mount Pleasant and Bay View Cemeteries near her South Portland home. Her plan includes visits to several Maine graveyards, including Saint Francis Catholic Cemetery in Waterville as well as pilgrimages to Quebec and Nova Scotia to find the graves of ancestors.

Artist website: jeritheriault.com

Self-Portrait as Homestead: presents various speakers as the accumulated voice of one character who is girl—woman—mother—grandmother. These poems are fully inhabited by real people like Jeri’s grandmother and other members of her family.

Wait: Poems from the Pandemic is an anthology of poetry and art by sixty-five Maine poets and visual artists created in response to the pandemic of 2020-21. Collected by editor Jeri Theriault, the art and poetry work together to reveal the feelings, frustrations, desires, and suffering all of us experienced during this time.



Financial Report

Statement of Activities July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

REVENUE	
State appropriation	\$1,028,580
Other restricted revenue	\$5,000
National Endowment for the Arts	\$882,500
Private grants, contributions, misc.	\$5,000

Total Revenue

\$1,921,080

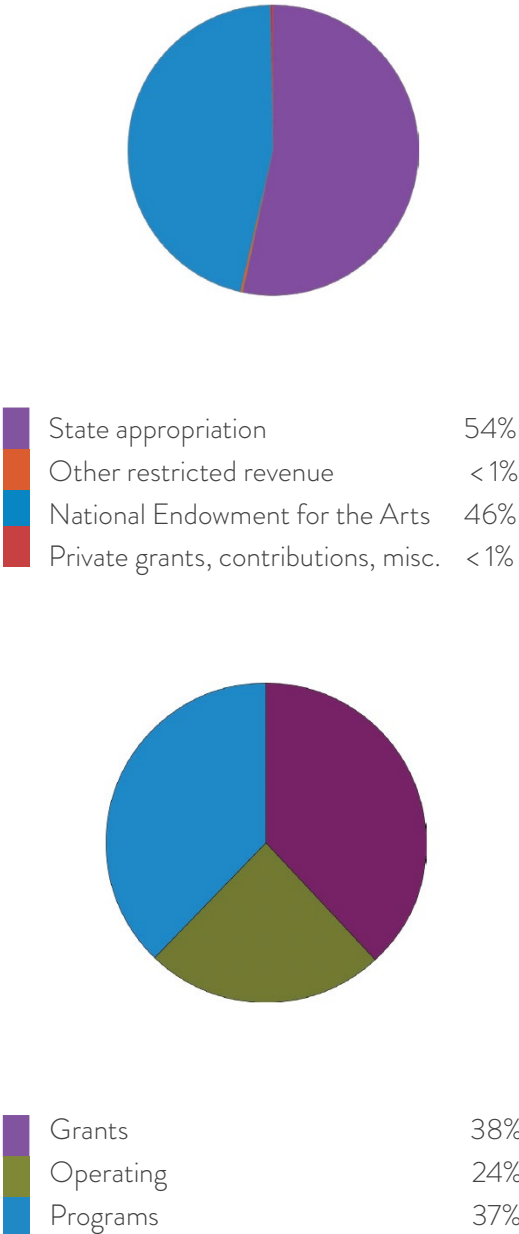
EXPENSES	
Grants	\$723,900
Operating	\$455,800
Programs	\$710,000

Total Expenses







\$1,889,700

Net Operating surplus

\$31,380



WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN MAINE

NATIONAL ARTS FACTS	MAINE ARTS FACTS														
ARTS & CULTURE FOR-PROFIT & NON-PROFIT SECTORS REPRESENT 4.4% Nation's GDP 4.85M Jobs  \$1.016 TRILLION Arts & Culture  \$945.3 B Construction  \$378.4 B Utilities The national arts and culture sector was a \$1.016 trillion industry in 2021 (4.4% of the nation's GDP), representing 4.85 million jobs (3.2% of nation's workforce), and total compensation of \$504.2 billion . Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts, 2023 (2021 data collected during the pandemic)	ARTS & CULTURE FOR-PROFIT & NON-PROFIT SECTORS REPRESENT 2.5% State's GDP 16,743 Jobs  \$2 BILLION Arts & Culture  \$2.6 B Construction  \$0.8 B Agriculture & Forestry The Maine arts and culture sector was a \$2 billion industry in 2021 (2.5% of the state's GDP), representing 16,743 jobs (2.6% of Maine's workforce), and total compensation of \$1 billion . Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, 2023 (2021 data collected during the pandemic)														
ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS INDUSTRY ONLY & THEIR AUDIENCES National \$166.3 B Economic activity annually \$27.5 B Federal, state, and local government revenue generated Spending by arts audiences generated \$102.5 billion to local businesses. Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, 2017 (New data coming Oct 2023)	ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS INDUSTRY ONLY & THEIR AUDIENCES Statewide \$150.6 M Economic activity annually \$12.3 M State and local government revenue generated In Portland specifically, nonprofit arts groups generated \$46.6 million in economic activity. Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, Maine and Portland reports, 2017														
FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS Federal Appropriation FY23 \$207 Million SBA SVOG Grants FY21-22 \$13 Billion Congress allocated \$207 million to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in FY23. This amounts to just 62 cents per capita . Ideally, Congress should index \$1 per capita funding to the NEA. Source: Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2023. View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts HERE	PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR MAINE ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR <table><tr><td>State Appropriation FY23</td><td>\$1,028,241</td></tr><tr><td>NEA State Grant FY23</td><td>\$882,500</td></tr><tr><td>CARES Act FY20-21</td><td>\$426,800</td></tr><tr><td>Federal ARPA FY21-22</td><td>\$750,000</td></tr><tr><td>State ARPA FY21-22</td><td>\$511,667</td></tr></table> <hr/> <table><tr><td>NEA Direct Grants FY22</td><td>\$1,405,000</td></tr><tr><td>SBA SVOG Grants FY21-22</td><td>\$52,024,293</td></tr></table> Source: NEA, SBA, NASAA, 2023 As of 4/7/2023	State Appropriation FY23	\$1,028,241	NEA State Grant FY23	\$882,500	CARES Act FY20-21	\$426,800	Federal ARPA FY21-22	\$750,000	State ARPA FY21-22	\$511,667	NEA Direct Grants FY22	\$1,405,000	SBA SVOG Grants FY21-22	\$52,024,293
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MAINE ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

FROM BICENTENNIAL DISAPPOINTMENT TO INNOVATION

For the past 18 months, the Maine Arts Commission has been engaged in a process of creating a new strategic plan that will guide our work through 2028. The plan has been delayed allowing us to listen to focus groups across the state and engage both the staff and commission members in a robust conversation about the key role the Maine Arts Commission can plan in the state.

THE MAINE ARTS COMMISSION fosters and encourages public interest and participation in the cultural heritage and artistic expression in our state. We pursue our mission through partnerships and collaborations, initiatives, advocacy, and grants for organizations, individual artists, communities, and schools throughout Maine. Executive Director: David Greenham Chair: David Hopkins  Learn more here.	BE SURE TO CHECK OUT <ul style="list-style-type: none">The arts are everywhere in Maine. Whether you'd like to stroll around the grounds of Winslow Homer's Studio, take a studio class in an idyllic oceanside setting, or explore the arts, crafts, music and dance of 15,000 years of Wabanaki history, Maine arts can be found in every corner of our state.Explore Maine Crafts and buy Maine Made products through the Maine Crafts Association.Visit Artist Studios with the help of the Union of Maine Visual Artists.Visit Museums with the help of the Maine Art Museum Trail.Find wonderful events, fairs and festivals with Maine Invites You.Visit Creative Portland all things in the arts in our largest city. Union of Maine Visual Artists www.theumva.org Maine Alliance of Arts Educators www.maineartsed.org Maine Humanities Council www.mainehumanities.org	THE CULTURAL ALLIANCE OF MAINE During the early days of Covid, 16 long-time leaders from cultural institutions around the state began weekly conversations on ways to unite, support each other, strengthen the sector's position, and impact funding, health, and safety policies. From those conversations, The Cultural Alliance of Maine was born. Our Alliance seeks to bring together and create a strong, unified voice at the local, state and national levels for Maine's widely geographically and culturally diverse creative sector, including but not limited to libraries, historical societies, arts organizations, creative industries, and artists and other cultural workers. Learn more here.
THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE! <ul style="list-style-type: none">Let's start at Fort Kent, at the very top of Maine (where US 1 begins). Stop by the Acadian Archives at UMaine at Fort Kent and listen to recordings of traditional folk songs.Down the road, you'll pass the Musée Culturel Du Mont-Carmel which features French classic architecture and an extensive collection of Acadian and Québécois artifacts.In Houlton, visit the Historical and Art Museum to see the collection of paintings and other artworks created by German POWs during the final years of World War II.Catch a performance from the world-class Bangor Symphony Orchestra.If you want to head "downeast" you'll find terrific art on the Canadian border at Eastport's Tides Institute & Museum of Art.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">In the busy village of Bar Harbor, take in the history and culture take in the history and culture, past and present of Maine's native people, the Wabanaki at the Abbe Museum.Southwest of Acadia National Park, Deer Isle is home to the world-renowned Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, an artist residency program founded in 1950.Heading due south from Bangor, follow the Penobscot Bay to Rockland, one of the liveliest arts communities in the state. The city also overflows with museums, galleries and studios.Brunswick is home to the Bowdoin College Museum of Art and the Maine State Music Theater.United in creative endeavor are Maine's contemporary centers for artists, craftspeople, and performers. Among them are Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Watershed Center for Ceramic Arts in Edgecomb, Celebration	Barn in Paris , and Center for Furniture Craftsmanship in Rockport. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lewiston's Bates Dance Festival is a world class institution. The city is home to many diverse arts offerings, including cultural arts classes led by the Somali Bantu Community Association.No time to venture all the way north? Southern Maine is a treasure trove of arts. Portland's Indigo Arts Alliance cultivates the artistic development of people of African descent.Further south you'll find the Ogunquit Playhouse featuring the very latest in musical theater. Stone Mountain Arts Center in Brownfield presents well known musicians in the most intimate performance setting you can imagine. And right on the border in Kittery, The Dance Hall practically dares you not to jump up and jive. As of 8/2023



MISSION

THE MAINE ARTS COMMISSION FOSTERS AND ENCOURAGES PUBLIC INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION IN THE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARTISTIC EXPRESSION IN OUR STATE. WE PURSUE OUR MISSION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS, INITIATIVES, ADVOCACY, AND GRANTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS, INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS, COMMUNITIES, AND SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT MAINE.

VISION

THE ARTS PLAY AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN MAINE'S PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE. THE ARTS ARE THE CATALYST FOR CREATIVELY RESPONDING TO OUR CHALLENGES, CELEBRATIONS, TRADITIONS, AND ASPIRATIONS. OUR ARTS REFLECT THE CHARACTER OF OUR STATE AND ITS PEOPLE. ARTS ARE COLLABORATIVE, INSPIRATIONAL, HEALING, HELP US EXPLORE OUR HUMANITY, AND CELEBRATE OUR COMMONALITIES AND OUR DIFFERENCES. THE ARTS BRING US TOGETHER AND ARE A NECESSARY PART OF A RICH AND FULFILLING LIFE IN OUR STATE.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THE MAINE ARTS COMMISSION IS LOCATED IN THE HOMELAND OF THE WABANAKI, THE PEOPLE OF THE DAWN. WE RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE ABENAKI, MALISEET, MICMAC, PASSAMAQUODDY, AND PENOBSCOT NATIONS AND ALL THE FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES WHO HAVE LIVED HERE FOR HUNDREDS OF GENERATIONS IN WHAT IS KNOWN TODAY AS MAINE. NOTE: COMPILED WITH ASSISTANCE FROM CHRIS NEWELL (PASSAMAQUODDY), CO-FOUNDER/DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION FOR AKOMAWT EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVE AND A FORMER MEMBER OF THE MAINE ARTS COMMISSION.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND ACCESSIBILITY

WE BELIEVE THAT ALL PEOPLE – INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN HISTORICALLY UNDERREPRESENTED BASED ON RACE/ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER, GENDER IDENTITY, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, GEOGRAPHY, CITIZENSHIP STATUS, OR RELIGION – DESERVE EQUAL ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN A VIBRANT, CREATIVE LIFE. WE WILL IMPLEMENT INTERNAL STRATEGIES AND POLICIES TO ENSURE CULTURAL EQUITY IS UPLIFTED AS WE CONTINUALLY STRIVE TO BUILD A MORE INCLUSIVE MAINE.

Back page image: Mayo Street Arts International Puppet Festival, Portland Maine. Photo: David Greenham.

Inside back cover: Jordan Carey, a Bermudian designer and artist at Hewnoaks Artist Residency, Lovell, Maine. Photo: Coco McCracken